

	4	3	2	1	0
Ideas/Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nails the thesis in a unique way (irony, sarcasm, prophetically, etc.) - Catharsis - Goose-bumps (not the scary kind; the deeper understanding kind) - LOL (has the reader laughing) - Aww (evoked empathy) - Ideas were clear and profound - A profound connection to humanity - Essay is on topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thesis is clear - Enjoyable - Interesting - Perfect - Keeps reader's attention throughout - Essay is on topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thesis is clear, but a bit weak or unoriginal - Written fair enough, but a bit boring - Essay is on topic, but may stray briefly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zzzz... - Huh? - Where's the rest of it? - Essay strays from topic throughout - Can be off topic, but you put your grader to sleep and they accidentally gave you a 1 instead of a 0, or you actually impressed them elsewhere and they couldn't hear the thought of giving you a zero as you might show some skill (this also may apply to being written in the wrong genre) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Off Topic/ Inappropriate - Nothing Written - Way too little written to be accepted - Essay written in the wrong genre (wrote an expository instead of a narrative; or wrote a narrative instead of an expository)
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paragraphs are purposefully arranged to evoke catharsis by using a unique style of organization - Writer has a firm grasp on paragraphing rules and allows content to lead paragraphing rather than formula - Opening and concluding paragraphs are "book-ended" - Opening provokes wonder or mystery - Body of essay uses meaningful and clever concrete details - Clever transitions - Conclusion connects to humanity or a universal theme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Writer has a firm grasp on paragraphing rules and allows content to lead paragraphing rather than formula - Opening paragraph makes purpose clear without announcing - Advanced and meaningful transitions and transitional phrases are used. - Body of essay contains concrete detail to support thesis - Conclusion can connect to humanity or a universal theme, but is short of catharsis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organized into paragraphs (will usually resemble formula) - Paragraphs are on topic, isolated, and do not mix topics. - Basic transitions are used. - Body of essay contains some or little concrete detail; however, is usually filled with generalizations - Conclusion is absent or weak - Ends with a regurgitated summary - Essay might regurgitate the prompt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not organized into paragraphs - Paragraphs are present, but mix ideas - Has a paragraph that is mostly off topic - Uses outright introductions of topics as transitions (I'm going to tell you about...) - Organization resembles a list 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing there - Way too little written to be accepted
Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voice and personality are unique, intense, and play a large part of the catharsis. - Voice is real and makes connections with the human experience - Voice reacts to transitions - Voice is dripping from the page: sarcastic, ironic, colloquial, funny, witty, etc. - Voice fills the empty clothes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voice and personality are present and consistent throughout essay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voice is present, but inconsistent - Voice is only detected in a small amount of the essay - Voice can sound a bit silly or cliché 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No personality or voice detected - Voice may sound naive or immature - Voice may offend the reader - Lacks ownership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing there - Way too little written to be accepted
Sentence Fluency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uses a variety of advanced sentence structures with correct punctuation - Knows how to play each sentence type especially the simple sentence for the purpose of voice; and the compound conjunctive adverb sentence for the purpose of a clever transition - Brushstrokes are used in sentences for the direct purpose of voice and catharsis. - Any dialogue used is for the purpose of gaining insight to indirect characterization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uses a variety of sentence structures and has a firm grasp on the punctuation of those sentences - Some sentences use brushstrokes to add clarity and richness to text - May use dialogue to emphasize character 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uses a variety of sentence structures, but lacks correct punctuation within sentences. - Uses several sentence types, but lacks manipulation of them - May contain dialogue, but is played without emphasis, sounds conversational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sentence structures are mostly simple or mostly run-ons, can contain several fragments - Repetitive sentence structures - May resemble a list of actions - Sentences have a pattern in structure - There are sentences that the reader can't determine the meaning of - Words are carelessly left out of sentences - Dialogues may be a mess and confusing, dialogue sounds list-like, meaningless, and conversational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reader can't determine the meaning of any sentence - Way too little written to be accepted
Word Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uses many well-played Sadlier or higher level words - Uses adjectives out of order and vivid verbs to evoke meaningful imagery - Uses figurative language to add to voice and catharsis - Uses words that play into multiple meanings, connecting to further understanding - Uses sensory detail (Delicious Describers, adj. out of order, vivid verbs) - Plays with sound effect words in sentences - Might have cleverly themed verbs and adjectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uses several Sadlier or higher level words - Uses figurative language that is meaningful - Uses sensory detail (Delicious Describers, vivid verbs) - Might have some sound effect words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May contain elementary level words - May use some higher level words, but seem desperate in use - Figurative language is cliché or desperate - Sound effect words are simplified, used desperately and may or may not have any contextual value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many "baby" or elementary words are used - Contains words that are used multiple times - Obvious low vocabulary present 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written in a foreign language - Way too little written to be accepted
Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flawless or almost flawless - Forgivable errors are caused by grammatical structures attempted above grade level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A few minor grammar errors - Elementary level errors can often be unforgivable for a 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Several grammar errors, but errors do NOT interfere with understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grammar errors interfere with understanding in one or more sentences - Contains elementary level errors in almost every sentence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing there - Lack of conventions makes essay unreadable, all meaning originally intended is lost - Way too little written to be accepted
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A pleasure upon first sight - the reader reads with ease as essay is readable and non-distracting - Tight and compact writing fills the page with meaningful and rich words - Letters are smaller, curvier, back-to-back - Space between words is no more than 1/2 cm, but spaced enough to see that each word is solitary - Writing is compact enough that more meaning could be sewn into essay (essay can usually be around 300 rich words; do not mistake for 300 baby words) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Readable and non-distracting - Fills page with tight, compact writing - Not much white space visible - Letters may be curvier than a 2's letters (Based on NEA studies) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Readable - Letter formations may seem straighter or sloppier (Based on NEA studies) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Handwriting might interfere with understanding - Handwriting, huge awkward spacing or words that run together due to lack of spacing, and/or not left-justifying is distracting to the reader - Decorative handwriting is distracting to the reader 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chicken scratch - No meaning can be determined - Severe issues caused by disability may qualify for transcription